

AS CONGRESS SEEKS ITSELF

O wad some power
the giftie gie us
To see oursel's as
ithers see us!

—Robert Burns

THE "Official Congressional Directory, Sixty-Sixth Congress," which is now off the government press, might very well carry the subtitle, "As Congress Sees Itself." For it contains as usual a biographical sketch of each senator and representative—with one exception. And these biographies are autobiographies. To be sure, there is a sort of censor who is supposed to see to it that the authors do not hand themselves too many flowers. This functionary came into being because a former Kansas senator a few years ago made the whole country snicker. But human nature is the same—in congress as out—and most of the contributors to this exceedingly interesting volume seem to be possessed with the idea that they must explain why they are exactly the men for the place—so exactly that they were of necessity elected. And as the ideas of the qualifications of a member of congress are about as many as the writers, the autobiographies do not lack variety.

The one exception referred to is Representative James O'Connor of Louisiana; he simply gives his name. In contrast, many other members need nearly half a page to set forth the details of their wondrous past.

Of those whose portraits are herewith given, "Uncle Joe" Cannon's account of himself is condemned, even laconic; Champ Clark's is about three times as long. Incidentally it may be said that the attitude of brotherly love of the two former speakers is for pictorial purposes strictly.

"Joseph Gurney Cannon, Republican, of Danville," the directory says, "was born at Guilford, N. C., May 7, 1836; is a lawyer; was state's attorney in Illinois, March, 1861, to December, 1865." Then it is stated that he was elected to the Twenty-second congress, and that he was elected speaker in the Fifty-eighth, Fifty-ninth, Sixtieth and Sixty-first congresses. That's all there is to the seven lines of his autobiography.

Champ Clark takes 20 lines. Outstanding facts set forth in it are that he was the "youngest college president in America"; a hired farm hand; led in the Baltimore Democratic national convention of 1912 for the presidential nomination on 29 ballots, receiving a clear majority on nine ballots."

Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas worked as a reporter on the New York Tribune and he has become the second largest publisher of periodicals in the United States. After obtaining an education in the common schools of Garnett, Kan., he learned the printing trade on the Garnett Journal, went to Topeka in 1884 and became a typesetter on the Topeka Daily Capital, "of which he is now owner and publisher." Incidentally, it may be stated that he owns Household, Capper's Weekly, the Missouri Valley Farmer, the Farmer's Mail and Breeze, the Nebraska Farm Journal and the Oklahoma Farmer. His publications are said to have a combined circulation of about 1,725,000. And he is intensely interested in the repeal of the postal zone law, which is regarded as exceedingly beneficial by the publishers of the country daily and weekly newspapers.

Representative John Miller-Baer of North Dakota sets forth that he is the first Nonpartisan elected to congress; is married to the "daughter of the North Dakota daxxed king;" that he has a son who is the eighth John M. Baer in unbroken sequence born in America, and that he resigned from a postmastership to engage in carousing and journalistic work.

Senator Nelson of Minnesota and Senator Bankhead of Alabama are veterans of the Civil war. The latter merely says of this: "Served four years in the Confederate army, being wounded three times." Senator Nelson says: "Was a private and noncommissioned officer in the Fourth Wisconsin regiment during the Civil war, and was wounded and taken prisoner at Port Hudson, La., June 14, 1863."

There are five other veterans of the Civil war: Union, Senator Francis E. Warren of Wyoming; Representative Henry Z. Osborne of California and Representative Isaac R. Sherwood of Ohio; Confederate, Senator Thomas S. Martin of Virginia and Representative Charles M. Stedman of North Carolina.

Senator Warren fought in the same battle in which Senator Nelson was wounded and captured. Senator Warren served as private and noncommissioned officer in the Forty-ninth Massachusetts regiment. He received the Congressional medal for gallantry on the battlefield at the siege of Fort Hudson. These two veterans find pleasure frequently in "fighting over" the battle which meant so much to them.

Representative Osborne served in the Ninety-second New York regiment. He enlisted at the age of sixteen.

Senator Martin was educated at the Virginia Military institution. While there much of his time was spent in the cadet battalion of the institution serving the Confederate states.

Representative Stedman served with General Lee's army throughout the war. He was wounded three times. Enlisting as a private he was mustered out as a major.

Representative Sherwood was a fighter and is proud of it. His autobiography reads in part: "Democrat of Toledo; was born in Stanford, Dutchess county, N. Y., August 13, 1835; was educated at Hudson River Institute, Claverack, N. Y., at Antioch College, Ohio, and at Poughkeepsie Law College; enlisted April 18, 1861, as a private in the Fourteenth Ohio Infantry and was mustered out as a brigadier general October 8, 1865, by order of the secretary of war; was in 45 battles and 123 days under fire, and was ten times complimented in special and general orders and on the battlefields by commanding generals for gallant conduct; commanded his regiment in all the battles of the Atlanta campaign, and after the battle of Franklin and Nashville, Tenn., upon recommendation of the indomitable General Sherman, commanding the army, he



SENATOR JOSEPH GURNEY CANNON

was made brevet brigadier general by President Lincoln February 16, for long and faithful service and conspicuous gallantry at the battles of Resaca, Atlanta, Franklin and Nashville; member of Loyal Legion and G. A. R."

So only seven Civil war veterans are members of the Sixty-sixth congress—54 years after the close of the memorable struggle between the North and South. Soldier representation in congress was at its peak between 1889 and 1890.

The fact that the period between 1880 and 1890 marked the larger soldier representation in congress indicates that most of the soldiers who were in their twenties at the close of the war in 1865 did not begin to aspire to congressional service until had reached thirty-five or forty years of age. Many of them were between forty and fifty when they took their seats.

There has been much conjecture as to how soon the veterans of the War of 1917 are to be seen in the veterans of the War of 1917, as the recent world war has been officially designated by the war department, will occupy a majority of seats in congress. As a majority of those who actually saw foreign service, which will be the larger political factor as the years go by, were between twenty and twenty-five years of age, it may be safely calculated that it will be at least 15 years before there will be another soldier congress. That will be in 1934. It may be sooner if the newer custom of electing young men is continued. The average age of congressmen has decreased in recent years. Several of the present members are in their early thirties. The West shows the greater tendency to elect young men.

Two veterans of the War of 1917 are already in the house—in fact, were in it when they put on the uniform. They are F. H. La Guardia of New York, who was a major in the air service, and Royal C. Johnson of South Dakota, who fought in the trenches and was wounded. King Swope, a returned soldier, has been elected a representative from Kentucky to fill a vacancy and has just taken his seat. His election has set the politicians wondering, inasmuch as he was elected on the Republican ticket in a Democratic district and his platform was opposition to the League of Nations.

Representative Lucian Walton Parish of the Thirteenth Texas district not only had the distinction of winning a \$50 gold prize as the best debater in his last year at the University of Texas, but won his election by the use of a "fiver." He says: ". . . prior to entering the race for congress he had never sought or held public office or emolument; he had, however, been active in public affairs, as president of the school board, as president of the chamber of commerce of Henrietta, and had held other like positions of trust. C. F. Spencer of Montague county and E. P. Haney of Wichita county were his opponents in the race for congress, and both of them were seasoned politicians. Mr. Haney having represented five of the 12 counties in the congressional district in the legislature of Texas and Mr. Spencer having been county attorney of Montague county, and at the time he entered the race was district judge of Denton, Montague and Cooke counties, and besides was reared in Wise county, giving him an extensive acquaintance in these four counties of the district; while Mr. Parrish was practically unknown in any part of the eastern district. With Mr. Parrish in the east and Mr. Haney to the west, all the political power were with our Mr. Parrish had no chance to win. However, with

Suspicious Circumstance.

"Did you find your house in great disorder when you returned from the seashore?" asked Mrs. Griggs.

"Why, no," replied Mrs. Whymple. "There was a great deal of dust, to be sure, but everything was just as I left it and I congratulated Mr. Whymple on being so orderly."

"Uumph! You should have put a detective on that man's trail. He evidently didn't stay at home while you were away."

Baddy Handicapped.
Much against Bob's wishes, his forester's tail was shortened. Not long after this operation Jip, like all other playful dogs, was trying to catch his tail, but it couldn't be done.

Bob, watching him, said sorrowfully: "Poor Jip. If they'd left the tail you was born with you could catch it all right."

The more some people tell you the less you remember.

The Effects of Opiates.

THAT INFANTS are peculiarly susceptible to opium and its various preparations, all of which are narcotic, is well known. Given in the smallest doses, if continued, these narcotics cause changes in the function and growth of the cells which are likely to become permanent, resulting in insanity, mental perversion, a craving for alcohol or narcotics in later life. Nervous disease, such as infantile nervous dyspepsia and lack of staying power are a result of dosing with opiates or narcotics to keep children quiet in their infancy. The rule among physicians is that children should never receive opiates in the smallest doses for more than a day at a time, and only then if unavoidable.

The administration of Anodyne, Drags, Cordials, Soothing Syrups and other narcotics to children by any but a physician cannot be too strongly decried, and the druggist should not be a party to it. Children who will need the attention of a physician, and it is nothing less than a crime to dose them wilfully with narcotics.

Cannabis contains no narcotics if it bears the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

Genuine Cannabis always bears the signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*.

Thought She Was Serving.

We took our 3-year-old son to a cafeteria for supper the other evening and when he saw me going around with the tray he said out loud: "Mamma, are you working here now?" —Exchange.

Both Possible.

Maurice La Mode has the nerve to call her department for young girls' dresses a perfect model of style."

"Why nerve?"

"Because it is a mis-fit establishment."

THE MOST DANGEROUS OF ALL DISEASES

No organs of the human body are as important to health and long life as the kidneys. When they stand up and continue to fail in their duties, look out: Danger is in sight.

Find out what the trouble is—with delay. Whenever you feel nervous, weak, dizzy, suffer from sleeplessness, or have pains in the back, wake up at once. Your kidneys need help. These are signs to warn you that your kidneys are not performing their functions properly. They are only half doing their work and are allowing toxins to accumulate and enter the system, which are causing you distress and will destroy you unless they are driven from your system.

REALLY NOT WAITER'S FAULT

OLD SAYING SLIGHTLY MIXED

Mr. Green's Perfect Mastery of the French Language Evidently Was Too Much for Him.

Mr. Brown and Mr. Green were taking their long-talked-of holiday in France. For three months Mr. Green had been learning French by correspondence—and thought he had mastered the language.

One afternoon the pair went into a cafe to have tea, and Green, who always insisted on doing all the talking, gave the order to the waiter. When, however, the tea things were brought, he noticed that something was missing, and spoke angrily to the waiter about it.

"My dear fellow," objected Brown, "what on earth are you saying?"

"Will you kindly refrain from making your absurd criticisms of my use of the French language?" retorted Green.

"Oh, certainly!" answered Brown. "Only it seems rather a waste of time to ask the waiter to bring you a staircase when what you want is a teaspoon?"—London Tit-Bits.

When a Father Needs a Friend.

"Paternity has its responsibilities," signed Mr. Godfrey.

"Quite true," answered Mr. Griggs sympathetically.

"Only this morning my wife lectured me severely for trying to console with my youngster because he had to practice two hours on the piano when his baseball team was playing another team for the championship of ten square blocks."

High Prices and Low Diet.

Doctor—"It is a little difficult to diagnose your case. Perhaps you have been eating too much." Patient—"Impossible. This hotel is run on the European plan."

Too Loud.

Jewett—"This is a pretty dead place. Jewett—I should say so; a still alarm would be considered a violation of the ordinance against undue noises."

Coffee Costs Too Much

Usually in Money—
Frequently in Health

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No Raise in Price

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